his customary duties. I hope you will remember the day of fasting & prayer for colleges, & try to excite Christians around you to pray for the same great object.

You mention attending a large party — "quite an exhibition of beauty &c." On this subject let me warn you not to go so far as to lose your influence in a religious point of view. You know your natural disposition. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

Agreeably to your direction I forwarded from this Office two letters, the Spectator, a Princeton catalogue from Samuel, & some N.Y. Observers, to Berwick. As Brother Jewett wishes to occupy part of my sheet I must close.

Yours
Chas. M. Putnam

Brother P—

Your "temporary Chum" gives me the privilege of writing here on conditions that I repress curiosity and not read the above — I have consented — I had the pleasure of perusing your letter to br. P— was an able expounder of all your dark sentences — So much for my information in the usus Loquendi of So. Berwick. We were happy to hear of your safe arrival and agreeable situation — and the individual information of your letter was peculiarly interesting to me — Yet I wish you had written more explicit, especially about Weeks — and others — — — — — —

I have taught school several years and know from experience the troubles and anxiety of the office — we wish to give satisfaction to our employers and acquire the reputation of faithful teachers — and this is proper enough — But the most sure way of effecting this is to do all that for the school which conscience tells us is our duty

Its opportunity for advancing the scholars eternal as well as spiritual good are very great — hence arises its awful responsibility — the great criminality of those who through a wrong estimate of duty or an ill-timed diffidence refrain from giving instruction which will abide when tongues shall cease and knowledge shall fail — It gives me grief when I reflect upon the neglected opportunities of this kind which stand recorded with my final account — So. Berwick wanted a pious man in their school or they would not have sent to Andover and I hope and trust brother P—

[1827]

Andover Theological Seminary Jan 23.

Dear Chum

As I am yet a widdower I suppose I may still apply this title to you. You enquire for news in reference to Andover & Yale. All things go on here as before you left. Our lectures from Professor S. are becoming every day more interesting; I wish you had remained here a little longer so as to have learnt more of his method of studying the Bible. The more I study that blessed book the more I am delighted with it, & astonished at my former careless method of reading it. In the Harmony we have gone over three sections only. Mr Beckwith commenced today opening our recitations with prayer. We have 7 or 8 verses at a lesson, & are now on the 7th Chap. I am even more delighted with our class meetings on Monday evening than I was ere you left. Brothers Astell & Black's narrations were peculiarly interesting. About three weeks since Mr Edwards met our class to deliver his address on "Temperance". Many of us bound ourselves to drink no more "wine nor strong drink." Christians ought to think more seriously on this subject than they do.

From Yale I wish I could tell you better tidings. We have had no letter from the church; but Winslow states in a letter to one of our Br. that he never knew religion there in a lower state. From other quarters too we learn that there has been much disturbance & some riots with town boys. O that Professors of Religion there could reflect upon their responsibility now; & not be obliged to do it with pain after they leave. The Rheumatism has prevented the President for some time past attending upon

Deacon Newman could not get the Observer for you as you desired him to do. I am rather in the dumps this evening as I have not yet received my monthly letter from home.